

Developmental Delay in Newborn Children: Prenatal Risk Factors

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EDITORIAL

Individuals with developmental disabilities can have one or more disabilities at the same time. They could be caused by a cognitive or sensory problem, a social or communication/language problem, a motor impairment, an adaptive delay, or a combination of these factors. Individuals with developmental disabilities account for 10% to 20% of the population. Chronic maternal illness, certain maternal infections, toxin exposures, and nutritional deficiencies are all prenatal risk factors. Pregnancy-related complications, prematurity and low birth weight, and infection exposure during pregnancy or at the time of birth are all risk factors in the perinatal period. Lack of access to quality care during pregnancy, labour, and delivery, as well as shortly after birth, can have a significant negative impact on both mother and child's outcomes, including contributing to developmental disabilities.

Causes of developmental disabilities

A cognitive or sensory difficulty, a social or communications/language-related problem, a motor impairment, an adaptive delay, or combinations of these are all possible symptoms of developmental disabilities. According to the Global Disease Control Priorities Project, 10% to 20% of people around the world have some form of developmental disability.

Prenatal risk factors

Genetic diseases or malformation syndromes are the most common pre-conceptional causes of developmental impairment. Genetic disorders, which include single gene disorders, multifactorial

and polygenic illnesses, and chromosomal abnormalities, are the most usually identified cause of intellectual and other disabilities. Aneuploidies and metabolic inborn abnormalities are two genetic diseases linked to developmental delay. Consanguinity raises the chance of rare genetic illnesses, as well as intellectual disability and catastrophic birth defects, especially in first cousins.

Rare genetic abnormalities and congenital abnormalities that impact development are more common in some ethnic groups.

Transfusion reactions

Maternal chronic illness

Some ethnic groups are more likely to have rare genetic abnormalities and congenital defects that affect development. Maternal diabetes raises the chance of fetal abnormalities, macrosomia, and subsequent birth damage, as well as hypoglycemia, all of which can have a severe impact on the infant's development.

Developmental disabilities can be the result of a complex constellation of issues in any child, but they are especially common in newcomer children, whose cause is frequently unknown.

In impoverished countries, however, pregnant women's lack of access to sufficient, nutritional diets as well as adequate prenatal, delivery, and postnatal care causes severe morbidity. Immigrants and refugees are more likely to acquire developmental problems, with different risk factors depending on where they came from. Health care practitioners must be aware of general hazards for all arrivals, as well as unique patient hazards, taking into account the influence of family, immigration, and ethnic history.

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